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cotyloid cavities for the tibio-tarsus are bounded by an elevated margin, and are separated medially by a single low oblique ridge. The groove of the posterior face is particularly wide, and the inner part of the shaft is thinned, while the outer border is broadly convex. The proximal part of the inner border (as far as it is preserved) is marked with a flat surface which is roughened with ridges, which is perhaps the sutural articulation of the proximal end of the metatarsus of the hallux. No such surface exists on the corresponding bone of the ostrich or emeu. Only two of the free distal phalangeal extremities are preserved. The shaft is broken, showing that its interior is filled with cancellous tissue. The free extremities are remarkable for the great inferior extent of the articular trochlear face. The median is strongly grooved with an obtuse excavation, and the lateral or bordering ridges are equal and rounded. The groove is continuous with the superior surface, but not with the inferior. There the convergent lateral ridges inclosing the open groove, terminate in an abrupt elevation above the adjacent surface of the shaft. The sides at this point are concave. The inner free condyle has an oblique articular face, the external ridge dropping away internally as in many birds, and produced beyond the inner ridge, distally. The articular face becomes then a part of a spiral, and is little grooved above, but strongly grooved medially. The vertical diameters of the sides differ, the inner being much greater, and both are concave. A strong foramen pierces the shaft just within the point of junction of the inner and medial free extremities.

Measurements.

	M.
Transverse diameter of proximal end of tarsometatarsus100
Antero-posterior do. (partly inferential)070
Interval between penetrating foramina on anterior face shaft . .	.017
Median distal condyle { Long diameter050
{ Vertical diameter048
{ Transverse diameter040
Internal distal condyle { Long diameter037
{ Vertical diameter040
{ Transverse diameter031

The large size and wide separation of the penetrating foramina, and the thin internal edge with sutural articular facet, distinguish this form as distinct from any of the genera of *Struthionidæ* and *Dinornithidæ*. It is therefore named *Diatryma gigantea*.

On Strontianite and Associated Minerals in Mifflin Co.—Mr. HENRY CARVILL LEWIS remarked that it might be of interest to mention the occurrence of Strontianite in Pennsylvania—a mineral which he believed had not been heretofore recorded as occurring in our State.

He had found it quite abundantly in Mifflin County on the Juniata opposite Mount Union. It exists as tufts of white acicular

crystals, lining pockets in limestone, or when in shale, disseminated throughout the rock-mass. The specimen presented to the Academy is of the latter kind. Its geological position is in hydraulic limestone near the lower horizon of the Water Lime Group. (No. VI. of Penna. Survey.)

Several other minerals have been found associated with the strontianite; among them a strontianitic aragonite, found in fibrous crystalline crusts, generally about half an inch thick. When heated before the blowpipe it gives a red flame, and sometimes slightly exfoliates. A specimen was examined by Dr. Genth, who finds the amount of strontia present to be about one-half of one per cent.

Calcite, ferrocalcite, common aragonite, and fluorite occur at the same locality.

A statement in Prof. Rogers' "Geology of Pennsylvania" (Vol. I. p. 215), referring to the occurrence of strontianite at Marble Hall, Montgomery County, is probably incorrect; barites, which is there plentiful, being mistaken for it.

FEBRUARY 8.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-nine members present.

Mr. THOMAS MEEHAN remarked that the American correspondent of "Nature" had characterized some recent remarks of his on fertilization by insect agency, as an attack on Mr. Darwin. He thought the members of the Academy would bear him out in the statement that the facts and observations he had from time to time offered were submitted in no spirit of antagonism to Mr. Darwin, but often favored as much as they opposed views held by that distinguished gentleman. Even those who were avowed partisans of Mr. Darwin felt it necessary to strengthen their positions by searching for new facts; surely the mere student who was willing to wait till the evidence was all in, might offer the facts as he found them, without being liable to the charge of direct antagonism. However, he felt fortunate to-night in having two new facts to offer, one of which might favor, and the other oppose some generally accepted views.

Variation in Quercus macrocarpa.—Mr. M. remarked that among many other characters distinguishing oaks, the color of the one-year-old twigs was marked. Some species had purplish-red twigs, as, for instance, the white oak; others, as the burr oak, had gray twigs. This character was remarkably constant through all the species. He exhibited some branches of the burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) in which was a tendency to develop the character of the white oak. From the articulus of the fallen leaf downwards, in some cases extending several inches, was a purple